(c) and (d) All India Radio covers 97.1 per cent of the population and 89.7 per cent area of the country, on MW/ VHF band. With the regional Short Wave service, the entire country is covered by AIR's radio transmission.

Publications by the Publications division

6088. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) how many publications were brought about by the Publications Division last year;

(b) out of these how many were sold and at what price;

(c) what was the criterion for bringing out such publications; and

(d) whether the publications are commercially profitable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) During 1994-95 Publications Division brought out 157 titles.

(b) The titlewise break up of sales is difficult to arrive at as (i) sale of books is an on-going process and (ii) Publications Division sells its books through various outlets. However, gross sales of Publications Division during 1994-95 amounted to Rs. 173.52 lakhs.

(c) Publications Division brings out books on subjects like art and culture, history and tradition, democratic processes, economic development, social resurgence and children literature, to give valuable information and document the multi-faceted culture of India through its Publications.

(d) Being primarily a service organisation, Publications Division is not run on a commercial basis.

Establishment cost of Photo division

6089. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the establishment cost of the photo division annually;

(b) what is the necessity of the Photo division when photography and processing is available at very cheap rates outside;

(c) whether any review of the Photo Division and its cost benefit analysis will be made;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) The establishment cost of Photo Division for the year 1994-95 was Rs. 55.51 lakhs.

(b) to (e) Various Ministries and Departments of the Government of India including the President's Secretariat, Vice-President's Secretariat, Prime Minister's Office, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Secretariats depend on Photo Division for their photo publicity. Certain sensitive Ministries like Defence, External Affairs and Home have to depend on Photo Division when private photographers cannot be granted access. Photo Division also functions as a photo library which has more than 15 lakhs negatives of great archival value and historical importance. It also imparts training in different aspects of photography to persons deputed from the Information and Public Relations Departments of the State Governments/ Union Territories. As compared to